

September 2026

Newsletter

Eager to Learn, Proud to Achieve

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A Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of our School Community,

It has been a wonderful start to the new academic year and a real pleasure to welcome all of our children back to school. The first few weeks have been incredibly busy, with classrooms full of enthusiasm, learning and excitement as children settle back into school routines and begin new learning journeys.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new children and families who have joined the Joseph Turner community this term. It has been fantastic to see how quickly they have settled into school life and embraced the opportunities that school has to offer. We look forward to watching them grow in confidence and achieve great things throughout the year.

We would also like to inform parents that Mrs Purcell has now taken on the role of SENDCo within school. We are delighted to have her leading this important area of our provision and supporting children with additional needs to achieve their very best.

As always, there is plenty happening across the school. We have an exciting range of educational visits, themed days, performances, family events and celebrations planned throughout the remainder of the academic year. We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school for these events and sharing many memorable experiences together.

Thank you for your continued support as we work in partnership to provide the very best opportunities for all of our children. We look forward to another successful and rewarding year ahead.

Oracy

This year, Mrs Sefton and Mrs Collins are excited to be leading our school on an oracy journey through Voice 21. Oracy is the ability to express ideas clearly, listen carefully to others, and engage in meaningful discussion. Through this work, we aim to build children's confidence as communicators and create a culture where every voice is valued, heard, and respected. By developing strong speaking and listening skills, we can support learning across the curriculum and help our pupils become thoughtful, articulate, and confident individuals.

Weekly Talking Point:

If you could invent a new season, what would it be like? What weather, celebrations, and activities would it include? Encourage your child to explain their ideas fully and ask questions about their choices.

Upcoming Author Visit – B. Ware

We're excited to announce that B. Ware will be visiting on Friday 6th November with **WARNING: Grandma's Gone Bonkers** – her third children's book (suitable for all ages).

If parents wish to, they can purchase a copy of **WARNING: Grandma's Gone Bonkers**, **WARNING: May Contain Dragons**, and/or **WARNING: Magic Can Be Dangerous!** via linktr.ee/bwareauthor – which their



child can bring along on the day to be signed. (All three books are currently on special offer on Amazon.) B. Ware will also be selling signed copies at the retail price of £8.99 per book (**via cash or card payments**) at the end of the school day. Simply send your child in with cash in an envelope in advance (change will be available on the day), or pop by the stall outside the front of school at home time.

Head Students.

We are delighted to congratulate our Head Student team for this academic year. Congratulations to **Logan**, our Head Boy, **Ella**, our Head Girl, **Abhijit**, our Deputy Head Boy, and **Ava-Rose**, our Deputy Head Girl. We are incredibly proud of each of you and the positive example you set for our school community. We wish you every success in your roles and look forward to seeing the leadership, dedication, and enthusiasm you will bring throughout the year. Best of luck to you all!



Nursery – Feelings and Emotions

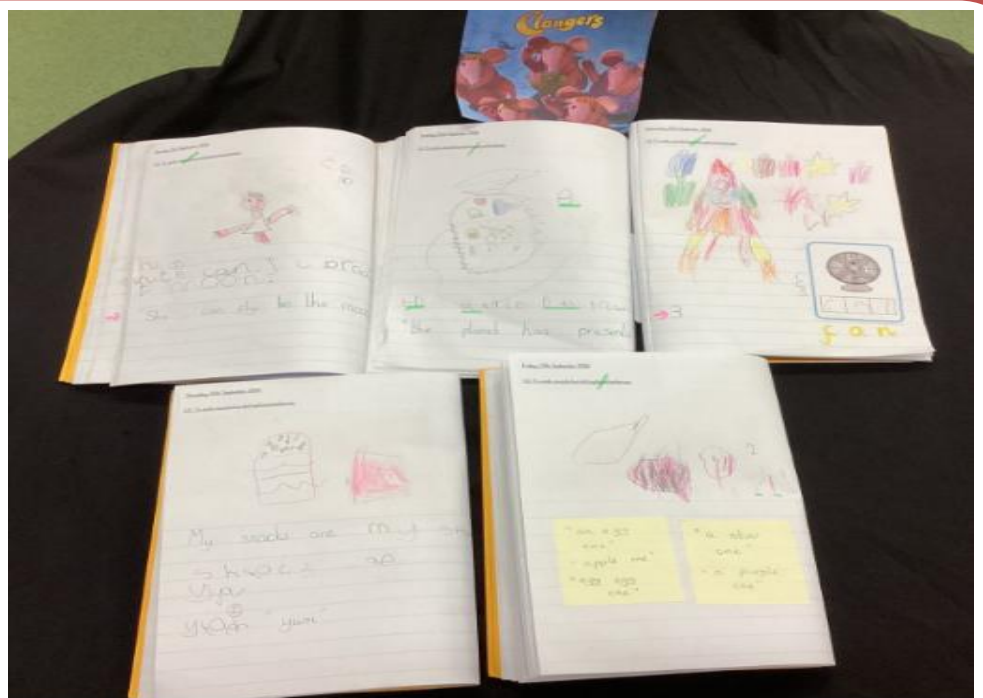
The Nursery children have settled into school life brilliantly and are becoming increasingly confident in their new environment. Through continuous provision, they have enjoyed exploring a range of activities that support their learning and development. This term, the children have been reading *The Colour Monster*, helping them to recognise, talk about and understand different feelings and emotions. They have also been learning about friendships through our story *What Friends Do Best*, discussing how to be kind, caring and help others. The children have enjoyed making new friends, sharing resources, taking turns and working together, developing positive relationships as they settle happily into Nursery life.

Reception – Nurse visit

Reception have settled into full-time school brilliantly and we are so proud of them! They have quickly adapted to their new routines, made lots of new friends and have enjoyed taking part in a variety of fun and exciting learning activities. We have already welcomed our first visitor to school, a lovely nurse, who taught us all about the importance of brushing our teeth and washing our hands to stay healthy. The children listened carefully, asked thoughtful questions and demonstrated excellent manners throughout the visit. We are delighted with how well Reception have followed our school rules, shown kindness to one another and embraced every new experience with enthusiasm. Well done, Reception!

Year 1 – Drawing Club

Year 1 have enjoyed creating magical codes and imaginative pictures for our drawing club this week. We have also seen some fantastic writing and heard amazing talking about our focus *The Clangers*.



Year 2 – School Nurse visit

This month, Year 2 welcomed the school nurses, who delivered a session on the NSPCC PANTS Rule. The children enjoyed taking part in discussions and activities that helped them understand personal safety, privacy, and the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if they ever have any worries. The pupils showed great maturity and engagement throughout the session.



Year 3 – Healthy Eating talk

Year 3 enjoyed taking part in a healthy eating workshop this week. The children learned about the different food groups and explored why each one is important for keeping our bodies healthy, strong, and full of energy. Through a range of fun and interactive activities, the children developed their understanding of balanced diets and healthy lifestyle choices. They were enthusiastic participants and demonstrated excellent knowledge as they discussed how healthy eating can support their growth, learning, and wellbeing. Well done, Year 3, for your fantastic engagement and enthusiasm throughout the workshop!

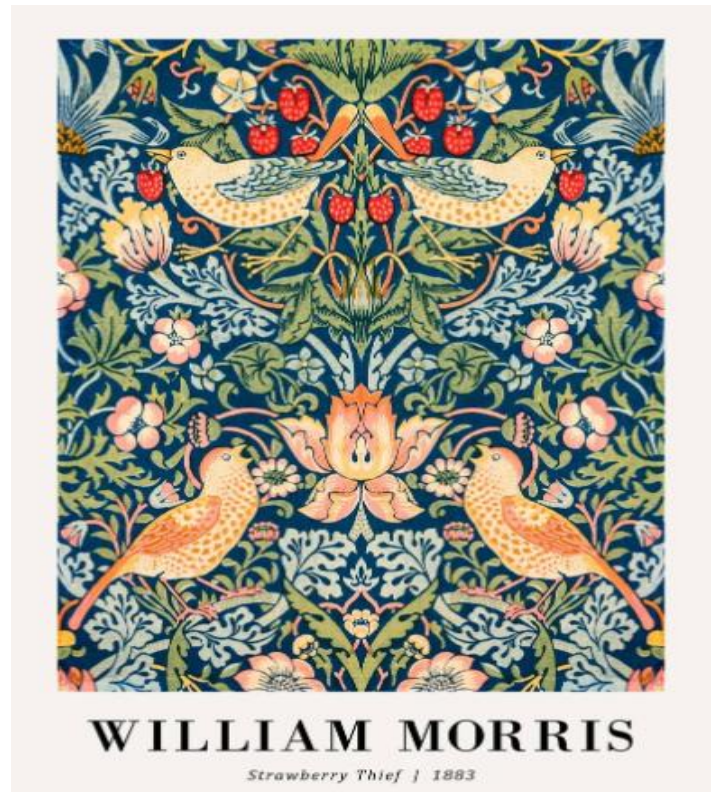


Year 4 – Roman Fun

Year 4 pupils have had a lovely start to the new term. All children are settling well into classroom expectations and building strong bonds with their new teachers. They have approached their learning with enthusiasm and are already beginning to delve deeper into the fascinating history of the Romans. As part of their topic work, the children have been learning about the volcanic eruption that destroyed Pompeii and exploring examples of Roman pottery. They will soon use this knowledge to create their own Roman-inspired pottery pieces. We are very proud of how well Year 4 pupils have embraced the new school year and look forward to seeing their continued progress.

Year 5 – Settling in

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to their next chapter at Joseph Turner Primary School. The children are all really settled into their new classes and their new topics. Swimming lessons are under way and the children are really enjoying their weekly sessions. Both classes are really enjoying their class novel *Oliver Twist* and can't wait for their next chapter in Jackanory time. The children have started to learn about William Morris in art and are enjoying looking at his style and technique. This week, we will be making different stampers to copy his repetitive style so watch this space!



Year 6 – Outward Bound Residential

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed a fantastic week at Outward Bound, embracing new challenges and stepping outside their comfort zones. Throughout the week, the children participated in a wide range of outdoor and adventure activities, including mountain walking, rock scrambling, canoeing, jetty jumping and gorge walking. Working alongside their peers and staff, they demonstrated resilience, determination and teamwork, whilst developing confidence and independence. The experience provided many opportunities for personal growth, and the children thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in the outdoors and creating lasting memories.



Dates for the diary – October

Date	Event
Friday 2 nd October	Y6 Tigers DT afternoon at Gospel Oak
Tuesday 6 th October	Nursery intro to REAL with parents (11am and 2:45pm)
Wednesday 7 th – Friday 9 th Oct	Harvest donations to be collected
Monday 12 th October	Whole school photo day
Tuesday 13 th October	Nursery REAL literacy event I (2:30-3:15pm)
Tuesday 20 th October	EYFS Pumpkin Painting Party (3:20-4:25pm)
Thursday 22 nd October	School Discos 3:20-4:10: Reception and KSI (Years 1 and 2) 4:20-5:10: LKS2 (Years 3 and 4) 5:20-6:10: UKS2 (Years 5 and 6)
Friday 23 rd October	Break up for half term @ 3:20pm
Monday 2 nd November	Children return at 8:40am
Wednesday 4 th November	Y2 Skills Builder Class assembly - Speaking (2:45-3:15pm)



National
Online
Safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luke Rowden is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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Attendance matters!

Here is the attendance information for the newsletter:

Well done to all our pupils who have 100% attendance from the start of the term, 224 pupils have achieved 100% attendance since September.

As always, the start of a new academic year, brings changes to the weather and illnesses. If your child is unwell and you are unsure if they are well enough to attend school, along with any potential isolation periods, please check the link below for the NHS guidance on illnesses.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

We are also in the middle of our attendance celebration and we would like to invite all pupils to attend school on Thursday 1st October to come in their loungewear or their pyjamas.

Here are the current attendance results for all classes, well done to all class where attendance is over 95%, along with a massive well done to Parrots for the best attendance so far this year!

Group	% Attend
Ladybirds AM	93
Ladybirds PM	88.9
Bumblebees	94.6
Honeybees	93.8
1 Tadpoles	96.6
1 Dragonflies	93.8
2 Penguins	96.1
2 Puffins	95.7
3 Flamingo	96.8
3 Parrots	97.7
4 Toucans	95.8
4 Hummingbirds	95.3
5 Panthers	92
5 Jaguars	91.8
6 Lions	95.9
6 Tigers	96.4
Totals	95.1

The poster is decorated with several colorful butterflies in shades of yellow, orange, and blue, scattered around the text. At the bottom, there are stylized illustrations of various flowers, including pink daisies, orange tulips, and green foliage, surrounding a central wooden bench.

- HELP US GROW A -

Sensory Garden

FOR OUR CHILDREN!

All Fundraising This Academic Year
Will support a special place
for our kids to benefit,
Explore, Learn, and thrive!



Join Us in Making This Dream a Reality
Your support matters!
Information for our events will be sent out separately



Come and join us for our Board Game Café!



Come along to our informal drop-in session to meet the team, ask questions and find out more about our service

While you're here, enjoy some favourite board games, meet new people and have fun in a relaxed, supportive space.

No pressure. No sign-ups. Just come along and find out more!



Tuesday 27th October 2026

10am-2pm

CAMHS, Lodge Road, 48 Lodge Road, West Bromwich, B70 8NY